

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

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DIGEST OF CURRENT ECONOMIC STATISTICS, AUSTRALIA MARCH 1979

INQUIRIES

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

The Digest contains the latest available figures at the time of issue for a selection of monthly and quarterly series. Where possible, series are shown both in their original and seasonally adjusted form.

Seasonal adjustment

Measures of variability and details of the methods used in seasonally adjusting Bureau statistics are given in Appendixes D and C, respectively, of *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators* (1308.0). This annual publication also contains historical original and seasonally adjusted data in tabular and graphical form of a selection of the statistics appearing in the Bureau's monthly and quarterly publications.

As well as being adjusted for normal seasonal factors, some of the statistical series included in the Digest have been adjusted for the effects of calendar variations, namely, "trading-day" effects (arising from the varying numbers of Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays, etc. in a month) and the influence of movable holidays, e.g. Easter and Australia Day.

Most of the original and seasonally adjusted series are subject to revision.

Related publications

More detailed information is available in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* (1304.0). Publications from which the series in the Digest are derived are listed in page 8.

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- r — figure or series revised since previous issue
- n.a. — not available.
- n.y.a. — not yet available.
- (where a line is drawn across a column between two consecutive figures) break in continuity of series

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

A.R. BAGNALL
Acting Australian Statistician

PRODUCTION

Month	Black coal '000 tonnes		Iron ore (a) '000 tonnes		Lead (b) '000 tonnes		Electricity mil. k Wh		Gas (c) mil. megajoules		Raw steel '000 tonnes		Cement '000 tonnes		Motor vehicles (d) '000		Electric motors under 750 W '000	
	Original		Original		Original		Original		Original		Original		Original		Original		Original	
	Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.		Seas. adj.	
1977-78 - February	6,704	6,541	20,257	31.7	6,420	7,262	18,284	22,028	603	651	421	425	34.7	35.3	195	213		
March	6,101	7,000		33.7	7,098	7,423	20,226	22,174	675	651	423	423	37.2	35.3	202	198		
April	6,596	6,561		28.8	6,866	7,315	20,903	22,514	573	617	421	412	33.0	34.4	164	182		
May	8,249	6,953	19,257	32.2	7,676	7,275	23,768	22,514	706	670	432	411	39.0	32.6	187	182		
June	6,116	5,510		36.1	8,070	7,355	26,323	22,761	694	731	408	403	34.8	32.6	203	198		
1978-79 - July	6,167	5,826		35.2	8,555	7,484	28,038	23,063	628	633	397	378	38.1	37.5	231	226		
August	6,998	7,490	21,692	40.6	8,386	7,461	26,776	22,145	551	548	438	423	31.0	27.6	237	202		
September	6,910	6,842		36.7	7,555	7,370	22,886	21,231	593	586	477	458	37.3	33.9	282	252		
October	7,884	6,963		35.6	7,599	7,397	22,622	21,724	660	617	436	411	40.8	35.6	252	222		
November	8,437	7,342	22,021	40.7	7,112	7,539	22,404	24,239	597	617	455	426	42.1	36.3	273	219		
December	4,996	6,471		25.5	6,886	7,487	19,795	23,298	641	636	407	416	32.0	39.6	229	251		
January	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	7,077	7,779	18,839	23,712	664	641	298	449	13.5	38.3	97	192		
February	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	6,820	7,710	18,892	22,763	596	643	429	442	38.1	38.6	205	224		
March	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	7,414	7,626	21,353	23,585	638	606	478	462	41.3	37.8	243	231		

(a) Gross mine output. (b) Metallic contents of mine products. (c) Available for issue through mains; includes natural gas. (d) Include: vehicles which are disposed of by the manufacturer in a partly finished state.

PRODUCTION - cont nued

STOCKS (c)

Month	Cotton woven cloth (excl. towelling) '000 sq m		Woollen and worsted woven cloth (excl. blanketing) '000 sq m		Man-made fibre cloth '000 sq m		Meat '000 tonnes		Price Index Manufacturing Division (a)		Whole milk production all purposes mil. litres		Brokers and Dealers receipts of taxable wool		Book value at end of quarter \$m		
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Total receipts tonnes	% of total received by brokers (b)	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78 - February	3,070	3,094	586	526	9,748	224	239	218.6	420	464	32,604	74.4	19,316	19,312			
March	3,125	2,946	661	574	9,779	247	246	217.1	372	450	38,432	68.8					
April	2,847	3,219	602	628	9,181	219	227	218.8	278	444	29,749	69.1	19,682	19,649			
May	3,165	2,936	589	532	10,454	256	235	220.0	236	445	29,591	68.8					
June	3,546	3,102	587	672	11,790	233	221	221.6	224	457	20,873	62.2					
1978-79 - July	3,992	3,899	606	646	10,975	224	219	223.3	295	461	28,849	71.1					
August	3,762	3,388	710	649	11,353	240	230	224.3	447	471	72,992	76.1	20,164	20,099			
September	4,314	3,534	662	657	10,729	235	231	227.0	587	474	88,205	76.5					
October	3,898	3,581	814	744	12,205	259	243	229.7	751	482	107,519	78.0					
November	3,655	3,418	818	659	11,795	258	248	231.5	730	471	90,838	76.0	20,533	20,639			
December	2,777	3,111	626	728	8,864	208	239	233.6	673	469	52,535	72.7					
January	1,216	2,962	362	646	4,106	215	236	237.0	579	462	37,711	73.4					
February	3,111	2,910	738	664	11,425	229	244	241.3	435	480	34,907	70.8	n.y.a.	n.y.a.			
March	4,359	3,979	743	644	12,130	243	232	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.				

(a) This index is on a "net division" basis and relates in concept only to articles which are produced in the Manufacturing Division of ASIC (Division C) for sale or transfer outside the Division or for use as capital equipment. (b) Members of the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers of Australia. (c) Owned by private enterprises in Australia. See publication 5630.0.

OVERSEAS TRANSACTIONS

Month	Total exports, value \$m		Total imports, value \$m		Value of merchandise at average 1974-75 prices (b)		Export price index		Balance on current account \$m	Net Apparent capital inflow \$m	Official reserve assets (a) \$m	
							All groups	All groups excl. wool 1959-60=100				
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Exports	Imports	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78 - February	957	1,016	854	915	2,531	1,964	212	236	-81	121	2,948	2,939
March	951	1,006	965	989			214	239	-363	730	3,262	3,265
April	1,013	1,028	897	963			215	240	-253	248	3,229	3,172
May	1,042	1,022	1,020	976	2,444	2,026	218	245	-315	276	3,182	3,139
June	1,126	1,048	988	999			222	249	-195	203	3,225	3,183
1978-79 - July	1,073	1,086	1,068	1,031			222	249	-327	313	3,293	3,238
August	1,032	993	1,135	1,033	2,230	1,976	226	254	-390	280	3,315	3,355
September	934	938	981	1,050			230	259	-318	237	3,274	3,340
October	1,134	1,145	1,195	1,153			232	261	-361	261	3,328	3,366
November	1,206	1,144	1,206	1,141	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	233	263	-217	284	3,226	3,250
December	1,088	1,148	1,034	1,157			238	269	-256	205	3,200	3,219
January	1,311	1,319	1,213	1,150			246	281	-203	96	3,377	3,441
February	1,126	1,171	1,050	1,123	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	-111	329	3,723	3,708
March	1,160	1,259	1,148	1,136			n.y.a.	n.y.a.	288	171	3,600	3,602

(a) From the end of June 1976 gold is valued at the average London gold price for the month converted to \$A at the market rate of exchange applying on the last day of the month. (b) Replaces estimates at average 1966-67 prices. See publication 5421.0.

INTERNAL TRADE

INTERNAL TRADE													Instalment credit for retail sales, finance companies and other business balances outstanding (e) \$m	
Retail Sales (a)														
Month	All items except motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc. (b) \$m		Food & drink (b) \$m		Clothing, hardware, electrical and furniture (b) \$m		Other (b)(c) \$m		New motor cars and station wagons registered '000		Other new motor vehicles registered (d) '000			
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.		
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.		
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.		
1977-78 -	February	1,765	1,999	2,760	2,826	1,755	2,064	964	1,039	33.6	36.9	9.8	11.2	2,912
	March	1,948	1,995							34.9	34.1	10.3	10.7	2,917
	April	1,912	2,025							37.1	36.7	11.2	11.1	2,928
	May	2,120	2,058	2,626	2,910	2,160	2,138	998	1,063	40.3	36.1	12.8	11.2	2,944
	June	1,986	2,049							38.1	36.9	13.4	11.8	2,954
1978-79 -	July	1,948	2,071							38.2	37.7	12.2	11.4	2,943
	August	2,060	2,094	2,944	3,015	2,064	2,128	1,048	1,096	44.5	40.4	10.9	10.3	2,957
	September	2,069	2,115							41.6	43.0	9.8	10.3	2,967
	October	2,116	2,149							38.8	39.0	9.9	9.9	2,983
	November	2,248	2,137	3,331	3,106	2,530	2,170	1,345	1,146	39.1	37.4	9.9	9.5	n.y.a.
	December	2,905	2,194							35.2	38.6	8.6	9.4	n.y.a.
	January	2,061	2,207							30.9	35.1	7.6	8.9	n.y.a.
	February	1,964	2,225	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	35.4	38.8	9.4	10.7	n.y.a.
	March	n.y.a.	n.y.a.							39.0	37.1	9.6	9.4	n.y.a.

(a) Based on the 1973-74 census of retail establishments. (b) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (c) Other: excludes motor vehicles, parts, petrol, etc. (d) Comprises light commercial type vehicles, trucks, other truck type vehicles and buses. (e) At end of month, amounts financed to new agreements made were: July \$m142, August \$m153, September \$m142, October \$m153.

WAGES, FACTORY OVERTIME AND RETAIL PRICES

Month	Average weekly earnings per employed male unit \$		Weekly wage rates		Consumer price index, six capitals, 1966-67 = 100.0 unless otherwise noted (a)									
			Index, adult males (c) 1954 = 100	Factory overtime (b) at larger private factories hours	All groups		Food (d)	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Transportation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care (e)	Recreation (f)
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	
1977-78 - February	205.10	213.00	536.0	2.4	2.3	242.7	223.6	259.3	276.9	213.0	243.0	241.9	317.8	114.9
March			536.0	2.3	2.1		224.4							
April			536.0	2.3	2.4		227.7							
May	216.30	215.60	536.0	2.4	2.3	247.7	229.0	265.6	281.7	218.3	245.9	242.8	337.3	116.0
June			542.8	2.5	2.6		232.7							
1978-79 - July			542.8	2.5	2.6		234.9							
August	218.90	220.60	542.9	2.4	2.5	252.5	236.0	269.0	285.2	221.1	251.2	245.3	350.2	117.6
September			546.4	2.7	2.7		238.8							
October			546.4	2.8	2.7		242.6							
November	228.90	221.00	546.5	3.1	2.9	258.2	244.0	274.8	290.5	224.2	259.7	267.5	281.9	119.5
December			567.7	3.0	3.0		250.1							
January			568.0	2.4	3.1		250.1							
February	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	568.0	3.0	2.9	262.6	251.9	276.6	294.3	227.8	265.8	286.5	285.4	121.7
March			n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.		251.9							

(a) The composition of the group structure of the index has been altered with the introduction, from December quarter 1976, of the ninth Consumer Price Index series. (b) Source : Department of Employment and Industrial Relations. Average hours worked in survey week. (c) Weighted average. Excludes rural. (d) Quarterly series may be derived by averaging the three monthly figures. However, in some cases quarterly index numbers so derived differ slightly from the quarterly figure as published in *Consumer Price Index* bulletins due to rounding. (e) Base December quarter 1968 = 100.0. (f) Base September quarter 1976 = 100.0.

BUILDING, ETC.

Month	Building approvals \$m		Building approvals dwellings '000 units		Government building approved \$m	Building commenced total \$m		Dwellings commenced '000 units		Price indexes (a)		New capital expenditure by private enterprises					
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Materials used in house building	Materials used in build- ing other than house building	Buildings and structures \$m		Other capital equipment \$m			
										Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.		
1977-78 - February	434.9	495.1	8.7	9.8	88.1	1,464.6	1,488.7	27.5	28.1	253.7	251.8	397.8	478.3	1,107.1	1,259.3		
March	500.2	535.3	10.1	10.2	110.7					255.1	252.9						
April	518.9	513.6	10.0	10.0	129.9					256.7	254.6						
May	562.3	482.9	11.1	9.7	113.7	1,661.5	1,573.5	30.5	29.7	257.6	255.7	517.1	497.2	1,541.2	1,454.5		
June	585.5	504.7	11.0	9.9	170.9					258.5	257.8						
1978-79 - July	468.6	451.8	9.4	9.3	81.3					259.0	258.5						
August	573.1	589.9	10.4	9.9	120.1	1,672.9	1,623.1	29.1	27.6	260.2	259.4	523.3	514.7	1,453.7	1,467.7		
September	522.8	522.8	9.9	9.9	72.1					260.9	259.9						
October	582.5	545.4	11.1	10.6	105.7					262.0	260.9						
November	580.2	553.8	11.4	10.6	108.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	25.0	27.0	263.0	262.5	658.7	591.9	1,605.2	1,419.5		
December	460.1	516.1	9.8	11.1	70.6					264.6	264.4						
January	439.1	531.8	8.1	10.3	104.4					266.9	268.3						
February	550.0	628.9	9.8	11.0	114.8	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	270.9	273.4	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.		
March	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.					273.7	275.0						

(a) Weighted average six State capital cities, 1966-67 = 100.0.

FINANCE

Month	Savings banks - Depositors' Balances (a) \$m		Major Trading Banks (b)				Finance companies balances outstanding (c) \$m	Housing finance for owner occupation - value of loans approved (d)			Common- wealth bond yield short dated (f) per cent	Listed companies new money raised \$m	Taxation revenue Commonwealth and State consolidated revenue funds \$m	
			Deposits \$m		Advances \$m			Banks \$m	Permanent building societies \$m	Other lenders (e) \$m			Original	Seas. adj.
			Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.								
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Original	Seas. adj.	
1977-78 - February	17,543	17,451	18,342	17,590	12,869	13,193	16,399	272	136	86	8.83	223.7	2,071	2,093
March	17,453	17,551	18,745	17,846	13,159	13,443	16,533	292	134	83	8.83		1,980	2,119
April	17,409	17,701	18,620	18,147	13,463	13,340	16,668	250	129	93	8.83		3,030	2,127
May	17,650	17,931	17,890	18,061	13,757	13,573	17,037	307	150	95	8.82	389.6	3,672	1,982
June	18,046	18,081	17,593	18,296	13,626	13,485	17,066	253	140	83	8.83		2,321	2,007
1978-79 - July	18,222	18,262	17,636	18,431	13,685	13,533	17,296	256	149	80	8.83		1,648	2,131
August	18,381	18,361	18,255	18,870	13,962	13,962	17,299	303	170	85	8.79	398.3	2,113	2,066
September	18,537	18,395	18,600	19,166	14,116	14,184	17,549	290	164	80	8.79		1,633	2,161
October	18,636	18,417	18,952	19,176	14,516	14,278	n.y.a.	300	177	93	8.69		1,658	1,958
November	18,677	18,543	19,232	19,189	14,488	14,426	n.y.a.	342	195	105	8.66	503.3	2,396	2,241
December	18,870	18,747	19,601	19,335	14,683	14,680	n.y.a.	246	164	79	8.67		1,776	2,280
January	19,056	18,996	20,046	19,312	14,537	14,624	n.y.a.	334	172	80	8.72		2,115	2,274
February	19,278	19,161	20,461	19,645	14,479	14,889	n.y.a.	318	204	68	8.77	n.y.a.	2,347	2,384
March	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	20,852	20,023	14,652	14,963	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	9.00		n.y.a.	n.y.a.

(a) Excludes external territories. (b) Includes external territories. (c) Amounts shown relate to all types of finance agreements and provide a broad overall measure of finance company activity. For further details see the monthly publication *Finance Companies* (5614.0). (d) Includes loans for alterations and additions. (e) Includes Terminating Building Societies, Finance companies, Credit Unions, Insurance companies and Government Instrumentalities. (f) This series was previously based on rebate bonds which were issued prior to 1 November 1968. Income on these bonds was subject to income tax at current rates less a rebate of 10 cents in each dollar of Australian Government loan interest included in taxable income. The series is now based on non-rebate bonds.

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS																			
Quarter		Final consumption expenditure						Gross fixed capital expenditure											
		Gross domestic product \$m		Gross farm product \$m		Gross non-farm product \$m		Private \$m		Government \$m		Private \$m		Public \$m					
		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.				
AT CURRENT PRICES																			
1977-78	September	22,042	22,097	923	1,042	21,119	21,055	12,851	12,961	3,531	3,563	3,149	3,145	1,754	1,898				
	December	24,199	22,177	1,724	1,011	22,475	21,166	14,101	13,351	3,833	3,692	3,146	3,176	2,021	1,931				
	March	21,781	23,009	905	1,018	20,876	21,991	13,044	13,691	3,615	3,861	2,072	3,244	1,783	2,067				
	June	22,659	23,494	588	1,053	22,071	22,441	14,228	14,226	4,039	3,905	3,632	3,473	2,254	1,921				
1978-79	September	24,007	24,450	995	1,432	23,012	23,018	14,476	14,592	4,078	4,112	3,502	3,512	1,817	1,967				
	December	27,384	25,101	2,332	1,534	25,052	23,567	15,761	14,953	4,255	4,102	3,851	3,641	2,058	1,968				
AT AVERAGE 1974-75 PRICES																			
1977-78	September	16,453	16,441	809	950	15,644	15,491	9,418	9,489	2,621	2,642	2,267	2,259	1,276	1,386				
	December	18,113	16,327	1,782	950	16,331	15,377	10,111	9,599	2,779	2,705	2,371	2,267	1,446	1,388				
	March	15,693	16,673	804	947	14,889	15,726	9,201	9,654	2,621	2,767	2,039	2,256	1,254	1,466				
	June	15,794	16,651	387	934	15,407	15,717	9,850	9,833	2,881	2,789	2,486	2,370	1,572	1,324				
1978-79	September	16,621	16,967	722	1,173	15,899	15,794	9,813	9,885	2,857	2,880	2,357	2,355	1,250	1,358				
	December	19,160	17,219	2,130	1,186	17,030	16,033	10,389	9,882	2,954	2,873	2,544	2,425	1,395	1,338				
AT CURRENT PRICES - continued																			
Quarter		Imports of goods and services \$m		Exports of goods and services \$m		Gross operating surplus of trading enterprises				Wages, salaries and supplements \$m		Income of farm unincorporated enterprises \$m		Other household income \$m		Less direct taxes, etc. (a) \$m		Household disposable income \$m	
						Companies \$m		Other \$m											
		Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Original	Original	Original				
1977-78	September	3,648	3,555	3,440	3,492	2,574	2,585	4,548	4,437	12,543	12,562	421	18,369	2,801	15,989				
	December	3,371	3,459	3,644	3,490	3,014	2,574	5,636	4,541	13,184	12,663	1,172	19,494	2,934	17,731				
	March	3,632	3,634	3,284	3,408	2,288	2,764	4,352	4,716	12,670	13,104	439	18,459	3,452	15,446				
	June	3,821	3,812	3,589	3,559	2,715	2,691	4,064	4,944	13,170	13,280	111	19,994	5,200	14,904				
1978-79	September	4,060	3,959	3,501	3,555	2,721	2,736	5,153	5,333	13,495	13,596	500	20,004	2,802	17,703				
	December	4,247	4,367	3,936	3,769	3,375	2,875	6,970	5,713	14,194	13,626	1,748	21,448	3,007	20,189				

(a) Direct taxes deducted are those paid or payable by persons to general government. These include income tax paid and estate and gift duties, all other direct taxes, fees for service of a regulatory character and fines and gifts paid. Also deducted here are consumer debt interest and transfers to overseas.

CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE (a) ('000)

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS ('000)

JOB VACANCIES ('000)

Month	Males		Females		Persons		Labour Force Survey (c)			Registered with CFS (d) (for full-time work)	Unemployment benefit recipients (e)	Survey estimates (f)	Registered with CFS (d)
	Original	Seas. adj. (b)	Original	Seas. adj. (b)	Original	Seas. adj. (b)	Looking for full-time work	Looking for part-time work	Total				
1977-78 - February	4,112.4	4,086.0	2,296.9	2,285.9	6,409.3	6,368.7	395.8	81.3	477.0	431.3	298.5	36.0	22.3
March	4,087.6		2,320.5		6,408.1		345.7	74.6	420.3	410.0	280.2	36.3	19.5
April	4,078.5		2,326.4		6,404.9		333.5	67.6	401.1	402.5	283.3		18.6
May	4,072.6	4,064.3	2,321.4	2,321.7	6,394.0	6,386.4	331.6	63.7	395.3	392.2	272.4	32.2	17.9
June	4,076.7		2,307.5		6,384.2		330.5	61.8	392.3	393.8	286.1		17.2
1978-79 - July	4,059.3		2,316.8		6,376.1		325.4	52.6	378.0	393.4	290.7		18.3
August	4,053.8	4,077.7	2,311.5	2,329.5	6,365.3	6,410.8	332.6	63.1	395.7	388.6	285.4	n.a.	18.1
September	4,059.0		2,310.5		6,369.6		324.8	59.7	384.5	382.7	284.6		19.2
October	4,062.7		2,311.5		6,374.1		305.9	61.6	367.5	380.2	279.9		20.7
November	4,052.4	4,063.2	2,314.6	2,307.4	6,367.0	6,369.5	308.8	60.9	369.7	399.2	278.8	n.a.	19.3
December	4,165.3		2,373.5		6,538.7		373.8	67.4	441.2	451.5	311.3		18.0
January	4,119.3		2,266.8		6,386.1		391.1	55.0	446.2	493.5	341.9		24.9
February	4,135.4	4,108.8	2,337.5	2,326.9	6,472.9	6,432.4	381.7	72.3	453.9	481.7	357.5	n.a.	24.9
March	4,127.4		2,359.2		6,486.6		353.5	71.4	425.0	447.7	334.4		21.4

(a) Civilians aged 15 years and over. The labour force is the sum of the employed and the unemployed. (b) Seasonally adjusted estimates available only for February, May, August and November. (c) Suspension of seasonally adjusted figures in this series is explained in *The Labour Force, November 1977* (6203.0). (d) Registered with the Commonwealth Employment Service at Friday nearest the end of the month. (e) For reference data see *The Labour Force* (6203.0). (f) Results of sample surveys of government employers and private payroll taxpayers conducted by the ABS as at the last Friday of the month shown. For further notes relating to these estimates see *Job Vacancies, May 1975* (6211.0). As part of the measures necessary to bring the activities of the ABS within the resources available to it, the surveys of job vacancies have been terminated as from May 1978.

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES (a) (b)

Month	Total civilian employees '000						Private/Government '000 persons				Principal industries '000 persons			
	Males		Females		Persons		Private		Government		Manufacturing		Wholesale and Retail Trade	
	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.	Original	Seas. adj.
1977-78 - January	2,954.6	2,963.1	1,748.0	1,771.0	4,702.6	4,734.1	3,226.1	3,242.3	1,476.5	1,491.8	1,132.7	1,138.6	964.3	969.1
February	2,962.6	2,959.7	1,761.9	1,766.3	4,724.6	4,726.0	3,233.7	3,235.8	1,490.8	1,490.2	1,138.6	1,136.0	964.7	968.3
March	2,956.6	2,952.1	1,764.3	1,761.9	4,724.0	4,714.0	3,229.5	3,224.2	1,494.4	1,489.8	1,135.6	1,130.6	963.5	965.3
April	2,956.0	2,948.2	1,767.1	1,763.9	4,723.1	4,712.1	3,225.2	3,220.9	1,497.9	1,491.2	1,130.9	1,128.6	964.0	963.9
May	2,951.9	2,942.5	1,768.0	1,766.1	4,719.9	4,708.6	3,221.4	3,217.8	1,498.5	1,490.8	1,127.7	1,126.5	964.2	963.6
June (c)	2,943.8	2,937.3	1,769.6	1,769.4	4,713.4	4,706.7	3,214.9	3,215.6	1,498.5	1,491.1	1,123.6	1,124.2	964.3	964.5
1978-79 - July (c)	2,939.6	2,938.6	1,772.3	1,770.7	4,711.8	4,709.3	3,211.4	3,215.7	1,500.4	1,493.6	1,121.7	1,123.4	961.7	963.9
August	2,935.7	2,939.5	1,772.0	1,771.8	4,707.7	4,711.3	3,208.1	3,215.2	1,499.6	1,496.1	1,119.4	1,121.5	959.8	963.7
September (c)	2,934.9	2,942.3	1,774.5	1,772.8	4,709.4	4,715.1	3,210.9	3,216.2	1,498.5	1,496.9	1,120.2	1,121.5	961.9	964.8
October (c)	2,936.6	2,944.5	1,783.3	1,778.0	4,719.9	4,722.5	3,220.9	3,220.5	1,499.0	1,496.9	1,126.7	1,125.4	967.4	966.6
November (c)	2,946.9	2,950.2	1,795.7	1,785.4	4,742.7	4,735.6	3,242.0	3,230.5	1,500.7	1,505.1	1,131.9	1,129.0	975.8	968.7
December	2,950.4	2,954.7	1,792.0	1,794.9	4,742.4	4,749.6	3,247.6	3,240.2	1,494.8	1,509.3	1,127.3	1,130.9	984.3	973.5
January	2,947.1	2,955.6	1,774.3	1,797.3	4,721.4	4,752.9	3,228.4	3,244.7	1,492.9	1,508.2	1,125.5	1,131.3	970.3	975.0
February	2,959.3	2,956.4	1,793.8	1,798.4	4,753.1	4,754.8	3,248.4	3,250.6	1,504.7	1,504.2	1,136.8	1,134.2	972.9	976.4

(a) The estimates contained in this table are based on benchmarks established by analysing data from the 1971 population census and other relevant sources. Employees in agriculture and private domestic service and defence forces are excluded. (b) Seasonally adjusted estimates in this statement have been revised. For details of the methods used see *Seasonally Adjusted Indicators, 1979* (1308.0) to be released shortly. (c) Affected by industrial dispute.

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